

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims so that they read in accordance with the following listing of claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A tamper-evident closure for a container, [[the]] said closure comprising:
  - (a) \_\_\_\_\_ a first portion including an inner part and an outer part; and
  - (b) \_\_\_\_\_ a second portion, [[the]] wherein said outer part [[being]] is movable relative to [[the]] said inner part from a first position in which [[the]] said outer part is immediately adjacent [[the]] said second portion to a second position in which there is an unobstructed gap therebetween [[about]] around the entire periphery of [[the]] said outer part and [[the]] said second portion, [[the]] said inner part and said outer [[parts]] part being constructed and arranged to become irreversibly locked in [[the]] said second position so that [[the]] said outer part cannot be moved back to [[the]] said first position to close [[the]] said unobstructed gap.
2. (Currently Amended) A closure according to claim 1, wherein [[the]] said second portion is to be connected to [[a]] said container and [[the]] said first portion comprises a cap.
3. (Currently Amended) A closure according to claim 2, wherein [[the]] said second portion is permanently fixed in its position on [[the]] said container.
4. (Currently Amended) A closure according to claim 1, wherein [[the]] said first portion is constructed and arranged to engage an in-bore fitment associated with [[the]] said container.
5. (Currently Amended) A closure according to claim 1, wherein [[the]] said first portion includes a ratchet arrangement for locking [[the]] said inner part and said outer [[parts]] part in [[the]] said second position.
6. (Currently Amended) A closure according to claim 5, wherein [[the]] said first portion includes engagement formations and [[the]] said ratchet arrangement is located above [[the]] said

7. (Currently Amended) A closure according to claim 1, wherein [[the]] said gap is formed at the respective adjacent peripheries of ~~the portions~~ said first portion and said second portion.

8. (Currently Amended) A closure according to claim 1, wherein [[the]] said inner part includes an extension which extends beyond [[the]] said outer part towards [[the]] said second portion in [[the]] said second position, [[the]] said extension being positioned so as to be visible through [[the]] said gap.

9. (Currently Amended) In combination, a container and a tamper-evident closure, ~~[the combination]~~ said tamper-evident closure comprising:

(a) \_\_\_\_\_ a first portion including an inner and outer part; and

(b) \_\_\_\_\_ a second portion, [[the]] said second portion being connected to [[the]] said container and [[the]] said first portion being a removable top cap, [[the]] said first portion outer part being movable relative to [[the]] said inner part from a first position in which [[the]] said outer part is immediately adjacent [[the]] said second portion to a second position in which there is an empty, unobstructed gap therebetween [[about]] around the entire periphery of [[the]] said outer part and [[the]] said second portion, wherein in [[the]] said second position [[the]] said first portion is removable and [[the]] said inner and said outer [[parts]] part are constructed and arranged to be irreversibly locked in [[the]] said second position, so that [[the]] said outer part cannot be moved back to [[the]] said first position to close [[the]] said gap when [[the]] said first portion is replaced.

10. (Currently Amended) A combination according to claim 9, further comprising an in-bore fitment connectable to [[the]] said container, [[the]] said first portion being constructed and arranged to engage [[the]] said fitment.

11. (New) The tamper evident closure of claim 1, wherein said inner part further comprises a disk-shaped top plate with a cylindrical skirt depending from the periphery of said top plate and wherein said cylindrical skirt has a first set of screw threads for engaging a first set of corresponding

threads on said outer part; and, the inner surface of said cylindrical skirt has a second set of screw threads for engaging a second set of corresponding threads on said container.

12. (New) The tamper evident closure of claim 1, wherein said first portion further comprises:

- (a) an inner part skirt; and
- (b) an outer part skirt.

13. (New) The tamper evident closure of claim 12, wherein said second portion further comprises:

- (a) an annular tamper-evident band connected to the open end of said outer part skirt by a set of frangible bridges; and
- (b) a plurality of flaps projecting radially and upwardly, and wherein said plurality of flaps is positioned to engage beneath an annular retention ring on said container.

14. (New) The tamper evident closure of claim 12, wherein the length of said inner part skirt is such that it protrudes below the level of said outer part skirt in said second position and wherein said inner part skirt can be seen through said gap.

15. (New) The tamper evident closure of claim 14, wherein said protruding portion of said inner part skirt comprises a visual marking visible through said gap and indicative of said gap.

16. (New) The tamper evident closure of claim 15, wherein said visual marking is selected from the group comprising:

- (a) a colored band;
- (b) a text display; and
- (c) a graphic image.

17. (New) A system for providing an indication of the opening of a closure, said closure mounted on a container, said system comprising:

- (a) a first portion of said closure, wherein said first portion is a removable top, said first

portion further comprising:

- (i) an inner part;
- (ii) an outer part; and
- (iii) a ratchet arrangement for locking said inner part and said outer part; and

(b) a second portion of said closure, said second portion connected to said container, wherein said outer part is movable relative to said inner part from a first position in which said outer part is immediately adjacent said second portion, to a second position in which there is an empty, unobstructed gap therebetween and around the entire periphery of said outer part and said second portion, wherein in said second position said first portion is removable and said inner part and said outer part are constructed and arranged to be irreversibly locked in said second position, so that said outer part cannot be moved back to said first position to close said gap when said first portion is replaced.

18. (New) The system according to claim 17, said system further comprising an in-bore fitment connectable to said container, said first portion being constructed and arranged to engage said fitment.

19. (New) The tamper evident closure of claim 17, wherein said first portion further comprises:

- (a) an inner part skirt; and
- (b) an outer part skirt.

20. (New) The tamper evident closure of claim 19, wherein said second portion further comprises:

- (a) an annular tamper-evident band connected to the open end of said outer part skirt by a set of frangible bridges; and
- (b) a plurality of flaps projecting radially and upwardly, and wherein said plurality of flaps is positioned to engage beneath an annular retention ring on said container.

21. (New) A closure system for providing an indication of the opening of a closure, said closure system comprising:

- (a) a container for mounting said closure thereupon;
- (b) a first portion of said closure, wherein said first portion is a removable top, said first portion further comprising:
  - (i) an inner part;
  - (ii) an outer part; and
  - (iii) a ratchet arrangement for locking said inner part and said outer part; and
- (c) a second portion of said closure, wherein said second portion is connected to said container; and
- (d) an unobstructed gap, said unobstructed gap being formed by the unencumbered space between the bottom of said outer part and the top of said second portion defined by the movement of said outer part upward and away from said second portion as said first portion is rotated during a first opening of said container.

22. (New) The closure system of claim 21, wherein said second portion is permanently fixed in its position on said container.

23. (New) The closure system of claim 21, wherein said inner part includes an extension which extends beyond said outer part towards said second portion in said second position, said extension being positioned so as to be visible through said gap.